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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN
THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS
DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION,
PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Third session
New York, 17-28 January 1994
Working Group II
Agenda item 2

ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Draft report of Working Group II

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. Frederick E. G. MALLYA
(United Republic of Tanzania)

A. Organization of work

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 17 January 1994, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in accordance with its decision 2/1 of 13 September 1993, allocated item 2 of its agenda, entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" to the working groups. Working Group II would be responsible for the elaboration of such provisions as definitions, institutional, administrative, technological and scientific aspects; research, data collection and exchange information; procedural arrangements and other legal provisions such as any instruments related to the convention.

2. At the 1st meeting of Working Group II, on 17 January 1994, the Chairman made an introductory statement.

__. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved its programme of work for 17 to 28 January 1994. Subsequently it held ___ meetings during that period.

__. Working Group II had before it for its consideration a note by the Secretariat entitled "Negotiating Text of the Convention" (A/AC.241/15) prepared on the basis of the "Compilation of Government Views, Statements and Drafting Proposals" (A/AC.241/12), written submissions from Governments and statements made at the second substantive session of INCD held in Geneva from 13-24 September 1993.

B. Discussion of topics

1. Definitions

First reading (A/AC.241/15, article 1)

__. Working Group II considered the topic at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 17 and 18 January. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the definition of terms relating to the Convention (A/AC.241/L.15)

__. Statements were made by the representatives of 38 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

__. At the 1st meeting, a statement was made by the representative of a United Nations specialized agency. A statement was also made by the representative of an intergovernmental organization.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.1)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 11th meeting, on 25 January. It had before it a document, entitled "Use of terms" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.1), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topic of definitions.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

2. Technology transfer and cooperation

First reading (A/AC.241/15, article 20)

__. Working Group II considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 18 January. Statements were made by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

__. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of an intergovernmental organization.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.2)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 12th and __ meetings, on 25 and __ January. It had before it a document, entitled "Transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of technology" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.2), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topic of technology transfer and cooperation.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

3. Research and development

First reading (A/AC.241/15, article 19)

__. The Working Group discussed the topic at its 3rd meeting, on 18 January. Statements were made by the representatives of 31 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

__. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of a United Nations specialized agency. A statement was also made by the representative of an intergovernmental organization.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.3)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 13th meeting, on 25 January. It had before it a document, entitled "Research and development" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.3), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topic of research and development.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

4. Information collection, analysis and exchange

First reading (A/AC.241/15, article 18)

__. Working Group II discussed the topic at its 4th meeting on 19 January. Statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

__. A statement was also made by the representative of a United Nations specialized agency.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.4)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 13th and __ meetings, on 25 and __ January. It had before it a document, entitled "Information collection, analysis and exchange" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.4), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topic of information collection, analysis and exchange.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

5. Institutions

First reading (A/AC.241/15, articles 24-27)

__. The Working Group considered the topic at its 5th to 8th meetings, from 19 to 21 January. Statements were made by the representatives of 50 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

__. At the 7th and 8th meetings, statements were made by the representatives of two United Nations specialized agencies. At the 8th meeting, a statement was also made by the representative of an intergovernmental organization.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.5)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its __ and __ meetings, on __ and __ January. It had before it a document, entitled "Institutions" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.5), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topic of institutions.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, [including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union].

6. Procedures

First reading (A/AC.241/15, articles 28-35)

__. Working Group II considered the topic at its 9th and 10th meetings, on 21 and 24 January. Statements were made by the representatives of 25 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.6)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its __ and __ meetings, on __ and __ January. It had before it a document, entitled "Procedures and final clauses" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.6), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topics of procedures and final clauses.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, [including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union].

7. Final clauses

First reading (A/AC.241/15, articles 36-42)

__. Working Group II considered the topic at its 10th and 11th meetings, on 24 and 25 January. Statements were made by the representatives of 8 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.6)

__. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its __ and __ meetings, on __ and __ January. It had before it a document, entitled "Procedures and final clauses" (A/AC.241/WG.II/CRP.6), prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussion during the first reading of the topics of procedures and final clauses.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, [including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union].

8. Regional instrument for Africa

__. The Working Group considered the topic at its 14th and __th meetings, from 26 to __ January, and had before it a note by the Secretariat on a possible format and elements of a regional implementation annex for Africa (A/AC.241/17).

__. At its 14th meeting, on 26 January, the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee made an introductory statement.

__. Statements were made by the representatives of __ States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

C. Adoption of report

__. At its __ meeting, on __ January, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Frederick E. G. Mallya, introduced the draft report (A/AC.241/WG.II/L.2).

__. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the draft report [as amended].